Attorney Docket No.: 10018.200-US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Duffner et al

Application No.: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Filed: March 30, 2001

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: Signal Sequence Trapping

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith references which they believe may be material to the patentability of this application and with respect to which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

While the references may be "material" under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that the references are "prior art" unless specifically designated as such.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that no other material references than those listed exist or that a search has been conducted.

The references are listed in Form PTO-1449 which is in accordance with the requirements of M.P.E.P. 609. A copy of the references is also enclosed.

The references are as follows:

- 1. Hardouin et al., Genesis 26:245-252 (2000)
- 2. WO 98/22491
- 3. WO 97/40146
- 4. Smith et al., Journal of Bacteriology, July 1987, p. 3321-3328
- 5. Smith et al., Gene, 70 (1988) 351-361

It is respectfully requested that these references be considered by the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of the above-identified application and be made of record



therein. The Examiner is also invited to contact the Undersigned if there are any questions concerning this paper or the attached references.

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or **before** the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or **before** the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination. Therefore, no fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 30, 2001

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